

# Thanksgiving



We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become success. We have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole of the American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

— Abraham Lincoln

1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation

## Thanksgiving Eve Servants

|                                  |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sound System                     | Kathy Griffee                  |
| Media Shout Input                | Stacia Keller                  |
| Video Projection                 | Stacia Keller                  |
| Greeters                         | Janelle Olson                  |
| Ushers                           | Mike Hoops & Bob Thoman        |
| Acolytes                         | Diana Austin                   |
| Lectors                          | Dave Rogers                    |
| Communion Servers                | Marcie Mason & Stephanie Mason |
|                                  | Rob & Kayla Smith              |
| Communion Preparation / Clean Up | Chris Goble                    |
| Nursery Attendants               | Natalie Boggess                |

**Do you know someone...** who is going through a difficult time? Are you struggling with the loss of a loved one, loneliness, cancer, a lay-off, divorce, spiritual crisis, recuperation, or depression?

Our Stephen Ministers can provide the support you need. Talk with one of our Stephen Leaders: Julie Baas at 303-772-4995 or Janet Streed at 970-785-2332. It's distinctively Christian. It's confidential. It's a great way for us to show you how much we care!

Please let us know if you'd like prayers & anointing with oil after worship. This can be arranged on short notice!! Just tell Pastor Dan.



## Worship Services

Saturday 5:30 PM  
Sunday 8:45 AM & 11:15 AM

## Christian Education

Sunday School for all ages  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

## Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
(Closed 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

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Longmont, CO 80504-9736  
Phone: 303-776-8771  
Fax: 303-772-1417  
Website: [www.fclc.org](http://www.fclc.org)  
Podcast: [www.fclc.org/podcast](http://www.fclc.org/podcast)  
FCLC Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=84493020952>



# Thanksgiving Eve November 25, 2009

## “Pray...with Thanksgiving”

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I've heard a lot of droopy prayers in my life. Hey, I've prayer a lot of them, too.

- † Prayers of desperation — God, you've got to help me!
- † Prayers of self-pity — God, things are so awful!
- † Prayers of resignation — God, if you want to leave me unemployed, then I can't stop you!

But I'm learning how to pray a different kind of prayer—prayer said with thanksgiving. I learned it from St. Paul, who, writing from prison, taught me a powerful lesson. He said,

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”*

Strange. Here he is suffering himself, yet he's telling me to pray with thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is the seasoning that makes our prayers edible to God. After all, who wants to hear people whine all the time? I've learned that you can't whine and give thanks in the same breath. Self-pity and thankfulness don't mix any better than oil and water.

In fact, mixing thanks with prayer somehow changes it. When we remember what God has done for us in the past and think about who He is in the present—and express that in thankfulness—our prayers become more gentle, more trusting somehow. Thankful prayers are offered with faith. And faith is an essential ingredient for prayers that God chooses to answer.

We remember the Pilgrims on Thanksgiving Day, not so much for their turkey dinner, but for the sheer faith that inspired them to give thanks in a year that saw nearly half their number die of sickness. Yet they prayed with thanksgiving.

When your annual day of feasting is over, you may bemoan your extra helpings of dressing, mashed potatoes, and pumpkin pie. But if you can hang on to the “thanks” part of Thanksgiving, you'll be a different person. Because when you learn to talk to God about your needs—mixed with a healthy dose of heartfelt thanks—then you have crossed the divide from whining at God to real pray-er. Happy *thanks*-giving!

# The Celebration of Worship at Faith Community Lutheran

Before worship, talk to God. During worship, let God talk to you.  
After worship, talk to your fellow worshiper.

**Here at Faith Community Lutheran**...we almost always follow the traditional order of worship familiar to most Lutherans, but usually our services are a “blend” of old and new music. As Lutherans, we view ourselves as a church of “Word & Sacrament.” Therefore, “God’s Word” is held in high esteem as we follow the Scripture readings and the sermon with our Bibles open.

FCLC is among a growing number of Lutheran Churches committed to celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion every week, including the baptized of all ages. As we begin our worship, all are invited to “*examine themselves*” (1 Cor.11:28) during the Confession as we prepare to receive the Word and Holy Communion.

## Gathering

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Gathering Music              | Time for Prayer and Meditation  |
| Welcome                      | Pastor Dan Hansen   |
| Opening Hymn                 | “We Gather Together”  |
| <b>Holden Evening Prayer</b> |   |
| “Service of Light”           |   |
| Psalmody                     | <i>Psalm 141</i> (First verse together, then round, beginning with men) |

## Readings and Canticles

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| First Reading                | Joel 2:21-27, p.1304            |
| Psalm                        | 126, p.879                      |
| Second Reading               | I Timothy 2:1-7, p.1706         |
| The Holy Gospel              | Matthew 6:25-33 p.1393          |
| Children’s Message           | Pastor Dan                      |
| Sermon                       | Pastor Dan                      |
| Hymn of Response             | “Now Thank We All our God”      |
| <b>Holden Evening Prayer</b> | “The Annunciation”              |
|                              | “The Magnificat”                |
| Tithes & Offerings           | Adult Choir                     |
| Evening Prayer Song          | “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”     |
| Litany and Prayers           | “God of Mercy, Hold Us in Love” |

## Meal

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Words of Institution        | The Lord’s Prayer   |
| Sacrament of Holy Communion |   |
| Songs during Communion      |   |
|                             | “Praise and Thanksgiving,” “When the Night Is Falling,” “Once Again,” |
|                             | “You are My King” (Amazing Love), “O Mighty Cross”                    |

## Sending

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Holden Evening Prayer</b> | Final Blessing   |
| Closing Hymn                 | All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”                |
|                              | (First verse together, then round, beginning with men) |
| Postlude                     |  |

# Prayer Concerns

Let us know how we can pray for you. Call the office 303-776-8771.



- † [Jody McClurkin](#)—recovering at home from kidney stones.
- † [Mike and Mark Cousins](#)—on the death of their father, Jack, on November 14.
- † [Horst & Brigitte Hennig](#)—prayers of thanksgiving as their grandson Nicholas Hennig has returned from harms way in Iraq; he will be discharged at the end of November.
- † [Roger Rankin](#)—recovering from a fall on November 12.
- † [Jeff Brunkow](#)—recovering from hernia surgery November 9.
- † [Irene Rankin](#)—recovering from knee replacement surgery on November 4.
- † [Diane Vanderpool](#)—recovering from knee replacement surgery on November 2.
- † [Alicia Stover](#)—for God’s peace & comfort on the death of her husband, Mike, on October 28.
- † [Donna Koehler](#)—on the death of her father on October 25.
- † [Allen Clauson](#)—infection of the leg; moved to Life Care Center on November 4.
- † [Keith & Hanorah Anderson](#)—Keith is recovering from open heart surgery on September 14.
- † [Alice Cuba](#)—recovering from back pain.
- † [For those in our FCLC family](#)—who have lost jobs.
- † [Jon Prout, Eric Smith, Zack Morton, Brandon Lockwood, Ian McCormick, Matthew Parker, Jared Adams, Chris Hassa, Robb Kammerzell, Brent Davis, Ryan Moore, and Ramee Oppertude](#)—FCLC members and relatives of members in US military forces: for God’s protection; strength for body, mind, and soul.
- † [Matt Brents](#)—in Iraq on a one-year civilian contract: for his safety and God’s peace.

### The following families who are battling cancer and its effects:

- † [Ken Lowry](#)—battling B-cell non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma; last chemo treatment was Nov. 16.
  - † [Liz & Allen Schaff family](#)—Liz’ father is seriously ill with cancer.
  - † [Jeff & Kim Bonds family](#)—Jeff’s brother, Jerry, battling Multiple Myeloma.
  - † [Kathy Cook](#)—for strength and peace for her mother, Eilene, who has lung cancer.
  - † [Sharon Kirby-Cole](#)—her son, DJ, battling terminal cancer.
- Blue indicates new or change in prayer request.**

**Prayer-chain**—If you would like to join the prayer-chain or if you have a prayer request, please contact us at [prayer-chain@fclc.org](mailto:prayer-chain@fclc.org). You must subscribe to the prayer-chain **before** you can post your own prayer requests. If you do not belong to the prayer-chain and have a prayer concern, please call the church office 303-776-8771 or Marsha Tollefson at 303-651-2354; your prayer request will be posted.

### Scriptures for November 28 & 29, 2009, First Sunday in Advent:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>First Lesson:</b> Jeremiah 33:14-16 | <b>Second Lesson:</b> I Thessalonians 3:9-13 |
| <b>Psalm</b> 25:1-10                   | <b>Holy Gospel:</b> Luke 21:25-36            |

## Welcome, Guests!

We are grateful that you have joined us in worship this evening.

We welcome little children as we worship! In respect for others, you may bring your child(ren) to our well-equipped, staffed nursery during the service. Our speaker system provides excellent audio of the service in the Narthex and nursery.

—Thank you